

**Claim Amendments**

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) An inverted T-beam as recited in claim ~~12~~ 18 wherein said aperture is substantially rectangular in shape, and projections are located at the top and bottom of said aperture.

14. (Currently Amended) An inverted T-beam as recited in claim ~~13~~ 18 wherein the free end of said tooth engages one of said projections to lock a first one of said inverted T-beams in said aperture of a second T-beam of identical configuration.

15. (Currently Amended) An inverted T-beam as recited in claim 14 wherein said free end of said tooth is released from locking engagement by squeezing said ~~rectilinear~~ legs together.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An inverted T-beam as recited in claim ~~12~~ 18 wherein a step is formed at the junction between the ~~first~~ inner portion having a greater height and the second ~~outer~~ portion having a lesser height.

18. (New) An inverted T-beam including a base and a central web extending upwardly therefrom, said web having at least one end,

- a) an appendix formed at said end,
- b) said appendix comprising a unitary member with a continuous inner and outer portion,

- c) said inner portion joined to said web at a height greater than the height of said outer portion relative to said base,
- d) said outer portion being bent into a first and a second leg connected by a bent portion,
- e) the first leg joined to said inner portion in a coplanar manner with the second leg depending therebelow at an acute angle relative to said first leg,
- f) said second leg extending beyond the intersection of said inner portion and said first leg,
- g) a tooth formed within said second leg, said tooth including a free end that is bent downwardly out of the plane of said second leg at an acute angle,
- h) said tooth located at a height greater than the lower end of said second leg relative to said base,
- i) at least one aperture in said web having a height substantially corresponding to the height of said first leg relative to said base.